



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

1110 West Washington, Suite 290 • Phoenix, Arizona 85007 • www.azwifa.gov

Date: Jan. 14, 2009

Contact: Veronica Rivera, Communications Director: (602) 364-1236

WIFA Chairman Owens Announces “Best Drinking Water Financial Assistance Project of the Year” for Lake Havasu City in Mohave County

PHOENIX (Jan. 14, 2009) – Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona Chairman Steve Owens announced today that WIFA is awarding Lake Havasu City the WIFA “Best Drinking Water Financial Assistance Project of the Year” award for a project to replace aging water lines.

With funding provided by a \$53 million loan from WIFA, Lake Havasu City is replacing 339 miles of old plastic pipes with new copper pipes.

The city found about 1,000 leaks in the existing pipes during 2003-2004 alone. The copper pipes are expected to last longer than plastic, and replacing them now will save water, maintenance, and money.

Since the city began replacing the lines, reports of leaks have dropped dramatically. The project will be finished in 2013. The Lake Havasu City water system serves 22,500 people.

“We have been working closely with Lake Havasu City officials for several years as they implement this important project to protect Arizona’s precious drinking water resources, as well as build the infrastructure to support the community’s future growth,” said Chairman Owens, who is also the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. “Lake Havasu City truly deserves this award.”

WIFA maintains and improves water quality in Arizona by providing communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance as well as technical assistance for water infrastructure. For more information please visit WIFA’s Web site at www.azwifa.gov.

